

The Open Brand for CORBA®

The Procurement Solution

*Have you ever asked for compliance to some standard in your procurement and received bids for a wide range of incompatible products? Specifying the standard alone is not enough, you must be **sure** that the product complies.*



The Open Group has introduced, in support of the Object Management Group (OMG) CORBA 2.1 Specification, **The Open Brand for CORBA**. As well as a detailed and specific conformance requirement - the Product Standard, there is a test suite and a trademarked logo (as depicted). This logo is a guarantee of conformance from the vendor to you, the buyer. No more guesswork. You know exactly what you are getting. And you know the vendor is committed to interoperability in a multi-vendor environment - and that they stand behind their products.

The Open Brand for CORBA is one of a family of Product Standards from The Open Group. The Open Brand has gained worldwide acceptance as the foundation of a practical, independent approach to ensuring conformance with open systems. To date IT consumers have mandated over \$27 billion worth of products carrying the Open Brand.

What Does the Open Brand for CORBA Mean to My Procurement?

By making the Open Brand for CORBA a requirement for your next purchase, you will gain the following benefits:

Simpler Procurement Process - With a single reference to the Open Brand for CORBA you will reduce the complexity of your procurement document, simplify your bid analysis and reduce - or even eliminate - the need for product testing. It's one stop shopping that saves time and effort, reduces risk and has **no** down-side!

Precisely Defined Product Standard - A Product Standard is a precise set of functionality to which products must conform under the Open Brand program. Conformance to the CORBA Product Standard will take the guesswork out of your procurement, resulting in one less risk during the decision making process.

Guarantee - Products with the Open Brand for CORBA are subject to a legal agreement with The Open Group in which they guarantee that their product conform and it will remain conformant.

Interoperability program - An important aspect of the Open Brand for CORBA is the Interoperability Program that gives buyers of branded products a means of recourse to address interoperability problems between multiple suppliers' branded products. Should interoperability problems arise, the suppliers have committed to work together (and with The Open Group and OMG) in a pre-defined process that delivers a speedy solution to the problem.

Test Suite - As well as guaranteeing that their product conforms, products must pass a rigorous test suite. A comprehensive Conformance Statement is also required, defining all aspects of the

testing environment, any options included in the product and any limits, such as password length. The Conformance Statement is available the web at www.opengroup.org/csq. Information you need, when you need it!

Productivity Benefits

Although the features list is important, from a procurement perspective the real benefits are in what the features provide:

Application Portability - Applications no longer tied to specific target systems in the distributed environment. No more bridges. Application source code is identical regardless of development or execution platform.

Interoperability - All conforming ORBs will interoperate with other conforming ORBs, allowing transparent access of objects in a multi-vendor, multi-ORB environment.

Productivity Gains - You are no longer constricted by the availability of certain systems and programming resources. Because of this interchangeable systems environment application components can be developed as needed.

Schedule Improvements - Your schedule can be driven by your needs, not by the constraints of the system resources.

The Open Brand for CORBA: Make the Commitment

The CORBA Specification has reached maturity with the Open Brand for CORBA. Conformance is now specific, verifiable and supported by vendor guarantees. As a result, you, the buyer, can realize bottom line savings of money, time and human resources.

To demonstrate your commitment to this improved CORBA environment we encourage you to show your support for the Open Brand for CORBA by issuing:

Statement of Intent - issue a Statement of Intent informing vendors that your future procurements will require an Open Brand for CORBA certificate.

Brand requirement - make the Open Brand for CORBA a requirement in your next procurement.

Endorsement - let it be publicly known that you support the Open Brand for CORBA with an endorsement that we and you can use.

CORBA: Common Object Request Broker Architecture

In the CORBA model an application program operates in a distributed environment composed of client programs and server objects cooperating through the medium of an Object Request Broker (ORB). The CORBA Product Standard defines consistent interfaces for these ORB features. Hence, clients and objects no longer have to be rewritten or include multiple bridges in order to use CORBA functionality with different supplier ORBs. The applications can simply use the identical CORBA services - without change - across all CORBA branded products.

All products carrying the Open Brand for CORBA include the following:

- ◆ Object Request Broker (ORB) and Object Services - functionality for clients & objects to transparently interoperate in a distributed environment, including interfaces that allow access to the ORB without object adapter dependencies
- ◆ Interface Definition Language (IDL) - used to describe the interfaces that client objects call and object implementations provide
- ◆ Dynamic Invocation Interface (DII) - client side interface definitions
- ◆ Dynamic Skeleton Interface (DSI) - server side interface definitions
- ◆ Interface Repository (IR) - object management interface definitions

In addition, products carrying the Open Brand for CORBA provide the ORB interoperability, through the General Inter-ORB Protocol (GIOP) and the Internet Inter-ORB Protocol (IIOP Version 1.0).

Each product also includes one or more of the following language mappings of OMG IDL:

- ◆ C language
- ◆ C++ language
- ◆ Java
- ◆ SmallTalk
- ◆ COBOL
- ◆ ADA

For a more detailed analysis of these components please refer to the *Product Standard (CORBA) Common Object Request Broker* available from The Open Group web site.

Guidelines and examples of all of these statements can be found in the *Procurement* section of our web site, www.opengroup.org/procurement, or in the following documents:

Communicating Your Requirements: Procurement Document Guidelines for CORBA

Open Brand for CORBA: Statement of Intent

Open Brand for CORBA Endorsement Guidelines

Statements of Intent and Endorsement statements can be emailed to procurement@opengroup.org.

The Open Group

The Open Group is a vendor-neutral, international consortium of over 200 members with combined IT budgets in excess of \$55 billion annually. It has been the technology industry's flagship specifications, test development and brand organization for over a decade and established many of the open technologies on which billions of dollars of IT systems rely today. The Open Group is working with suppliers and users establishing interoperability requirements across multiple platforms, today's new Internet-based technologies, and looking to tomorrow's investment decisions.

For information on joining The Open Group, please contact: sales-team@opengroup.org

About OMG

With the support of its membership of software vendors, software developers and end users, OMG's CORBA is "The Middleware That's Everywhere™." Since 1989, OMG has been "Setting The Standards For Distributed Computing™" through its mission to promote the theory and practice of object technology for the development of distributed computing systems. The goal is to provide a common architectural framework for object oriented applications based on widely available interface specifications. For information on joining OMG or additional information, please contact OMG headquarters at info@omg.org.

World Wide Web: www.omg.org.

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